

## PRESS RELEASE

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## VAN BUREN COUNTY CELEBRATES MICHIGAN ADOPTION DAY

PAW PAW, MI, November 12, 2019 – The Van Buren County Circuit Court is pleased to invite the public to attend this year's "Giving Thanks for Families" Adoption Day celebration on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. This is a special opportunity to celebrate adoption with local families and courts around the State.

November is National Adoption Month and the Van Buren County Circuit Court will devote time to help make dreams come true for several local children and their adoptive parents. Adoptions provide a sense of belonging for children adopted by foster parents, single parents, relatives, guardians, stepparents, and for adult adoptees.

Join us on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, with Honorable Jeffrey Dufon presiding in Courtroom One. We are pleased to announce that Supreme Court Justice Stephen Markman will be an esteemed guest. A brief adoption confirmation program will begin at 10:00 a.m. Music will be performed by Mattawan High School a cappella group MUSE and the Mattawan High School Master Singers, directed Mr. David Hook.

Courtroom One is on the second floor of the Van Buren County Courthouse, 212 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan.

In 2019 there were 13,700 children in the Michigan foster care system, including more than 300 children in need of a forever home. There are 6,344 licensed foster homes in Michigan. For information about becoming a licensed foster parent, contact Michelle Cornish at the Van Buren County DHHS at (269) 308-9100. To learn about adopting in Michigan, visit www.mare.org. Financial and medical assistance, as well as post-adoption support, is available to make adoption an option for more families.

Please contact Veronica Stillson, (269) 657-8237, if you have questions about this event.

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